

Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group
FINAL: Minutes for January Meeting
1/11/06

Minutes by Jackie L. Calder

Present at meeting:

Neighborhood Associations:

Robin Plance	(b) (6)	St. Johns Neighborhood, CAG Chair
		Administrative committee coordinator
Peter Laughingwolf	(b) (6)	Cathedral Park Neighborhood,
		CAG Treasurer (new)

Environment:

Joe Keating	(b) (6)	Oregon Wildlife Federation
		Education and Outreach coordinator
Travis Williams	travis@willamette-riverkeeper.org	Willamette Riverkeeper

Business:

Steve Gunther	(b) (6)	Progressive Products and Services
Bill Barrett	(b) (6)	Waterfront Org. of Oregon (WOO)

At-Large:

Jim Robison	(b) (6)	Citizen
Jackie Calder	(b) (6)	Citizen
Tom Chisolm	(b) (6)	Citizen

Recreation:

Bill Egan	no email, (b) (6)	Oregon Bass and Panfish Club
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Absent:

Environment:

Dorothy Shoemaker	dorothy.shoemaker@oregon.sierraclub.org	Sierra Club, CAG
		Board Secretary
Rhett Lawrence	rhett@ospirg.org	OSPIRG
Jane Harris	jane@oregon-health.org	Oregon Center for Environmental Health (OCEH), Evaluation committee coordinator

Neighborhood Associations:

Jeanne Longley	(b) (6)	Linnton Neighborhood
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At Large:

Bill McCauley	no email, (b) (6)	Citizen
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Others present:

Barbara Smith	Barbara@harrisandsmith.com	Lower Willamette Group
Regina Skarzinskas	regina@TASLLC.com	Willamette-Riverkeeper
Mikell O'Mealy	omealy.mikell@deq.state.or.us	DEQ
Judy Smith	smith.judy@epa.gov	EPA
Jim Anderson	Anderson.jim@deq.state.or.us	DEQ
Chip Humphrey	humphrey.chip@epa.gov	EPA
Aron Borok	aron.borok@eilttd.net	EI/Tribes
Kim Cox	kimc@bes.ci.portland.or.us	BES, Portland
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	citizen
Julie Sullivan	juliesullivan@newsoregonian.com	Oregonian

Closed Session

Meeting brought to order by Robin Plance, Chair of Portland Harbor CAG, at 6:12 PM. The CAG meets at the City of Portland Water Lab.

Our next meeting is February 8, 2006, at the Water Lab. We welcome everyone interested in the Portland Harbor cleanup. There will be a closed section until 7:00 PM, at which time observers and the public are invited.

Robin: Did Jane hold Technical Meeting?

Jackie: No, her email said there was not enough response from the committee confirming the date.

Joe: Discussed the Fundraiser and ask what potential plans are set.

Jim: Suggested Open Meadow. In addition, there is a grant available from Cable Access for \$700,000 for a group who would present information on *public issues*.

Joe: Jim Lockhart would be a good connection for training for a presentation.

Travis: What about a television show called "Harbor Chat" discussing relative current activities and conditions on the river?

Joe: The group would have to be committed to a monthly program. It is difficult maintaining and sustaining a monthly program.

Robin: Could you be in contact with *Open Meadow School*?

(b) (6) : We should have filmed Schnitzer's illegal dredging.

Robin: NEBC, what are they?

Jackie: They are the environmental businesses that work the remediation of the river. Like repairing anything, they have several alternatives that they use depending on the problem.

Robin: Are these alternative methods tested?

Joe: Back to the Fundraiser. So far, we think it will be held at the St. Johns McMenamins. We could use the bus to advertise the event. Perhaps, we could get DEQ and EPA to help us.

Robins: Have all the members looked at the website lately? We all need to contribute to its development. If all of the members could send pictures, suggested links, or give similar ideas to Dorothy to update the website, it would help keep it current.

Travis: I have some aerial photographs of certain river sites if that would be helpful.

Robin: What is happening currently at T4? Perhaps the port should not have made it “an early action.”

Bill Egan: ODFW sent a letter to the EPA suggesting that the remediation would have to mitigate the loss of water when dredging and doing the removal of the sediment to another site. Otherwise, it would have a negative impact on the fish habitat. ODFW suggested that they would prefer a more natural method

EPA and DEQ have oversight on the project. LWG is paying for it.

Steve: What do we want from the RAO's?

Robin: I would welcome a return of industrial economic enterprises.

Steve: I would like to see Marcom come back.

Jackie: The longshoremen told me that they watched as Marcom dumped toxic waste into the river but it was always at night.

Bill Egan: T4 is the cities best slip. The Port wants to move to Linnton and that is not good. It is a shallow area. It needs dredged. It needs fronted

Robin: T4 It is an issue of changing operations. The off-loading has problems. **Call**

Travis: Mitigation is required. The Superfund needs to remediate by replanting. They need to select a place where restoration could take place. They should try a shallow area.

Steve: I agree.

Jim Robinson: I suggest that T4 become “Habitat Bay.” Members should submit ideas.

Bill: The group should be aware of what is being transferred to the Columbia Slip.

Travis: If the University of Portland buys McCormack & Baxter, we would like to see them build a buffer, a riparian area that would be restored.

Robin: Jim Francisconi wants \$35 million to go to river restoration, and then we could support them.

Steve: April meeting should be devoted to holding the *Fundraiser*.

Peter: We also need to devote time to evaluating the EPA reports.

Travis: That does have an advantage. We know we all members are free that night.

Jim: I would suggest April 19 because then it would be after tax time.

Steve: I would like to suggest April 19 for the Fundraiser.

Open Session:

Robin: Where are we on the T4 plan?

Chip Humphrey: We will have a decision soon(?) but Sean and the other leaders are all at the Katrina site.

Judy: The Tribes need to weigh in on T4. The process is waiting for that one part.

Joe: What sort of recourse do we have if they decide to install a CDF?

Chip: Look on the internet. There should be a link to *disputes* about the Superfund. There is an Ombudsman to give your suggestions.

Robin: What is happening with Eric (Stern?) who was invited to speak with us?

Chip: He is on a large pilot project.

Judy: We have not heard from Jane regarding the *alternative conference*.

Chip: We wanted to participate with the NEBC on this program.

Steve: I thought we were going to partner with the EPA?

Robin: I think the Linnton Community Center was offered as a location to hold the conference.

Judy: The Duwamish CAG would like to join the meeting.

Robin: Is there discussion or amendments needed for the December minutes?

Travis: I would like my comment to be stricken from the minutes.

Jackie: We need to add Judy's list of CAG suggestions regarding what information the CAG would like prior to the next *Early Action* to add to the October's minutes.

Judy: I can send that to you. In addition, I am not on the list for being present at the meeting.

MOTION: Strike comment from Travis from the October minutes. Peter Laughingwolf moved, Jim Robinson seconded. All agreed

MOTION: Accept corrected October PHCAG minutes as submitted by Steve Gunther. Jim Robison moved, Peter Laughingwolf seconded, all agreed.

Mikell O'Mealy: Thank you for your interest in McCormick & Baxter site. We are asking for volunteers to join us for a Tree Planting at McCormick & Baxter on February 11, 2006 from 11-4.

Travis: University of Portland negotiations. We will not be a sponsor but will participate.

Presentation by Chip Humphries of EPA.

Remedial Action Objectives

Normally, you would start with a *model*.

Observe all of the possible pathways affecting the site.

These are broken down to various entities like: Human Health
ECO Health

Then the COC's, (contaminants of concern) are analyzed.

Jim Robinson: How is the risk defined? Is it a regulated number like 10^{-6} or something similar? On the other hand, perhaps there is a *risk number* that gets assigned to it.

Regina Skarsinski: There must be viewed at an individual level, for instance, Threatened and Endangered species are treated separately from the regular ECO health examination.

Steve Gunther: We should have the appearance of the river to be as natural looking as possible when all is concluded like paint the tank farms brown similarly to Christiansen.

Chip; This type of project might work better in the City's *River Renaissance Program*.

Peter: When do we account for personal health?

Chip: The community needs to decide about the land use. The EPA cleans up as an accommodation to those decisions made by. . . **call**

Travis: What does the Port have to say about what is happening in the future.

Robin:

Chip: All of those things can be included.

Travis: It should include an industrial SF (sanctuary?) that would be licensed. (like a dam, that observes rules and regulations)

Peter: What role has the EPA played, taken these ideas into consideration during the process that EPA has control?

Chip: The mitigation plans are input by agencies, ex. Fishing Access.

Travis: The CAG could make a list.

- US Fish & Wildlife
- ODFW
- Confederated Inter-Tribal Council
- And others

Chip: These are the Trustees. So far, there has been no plan of action from the Trustees.

Aron Borok: PRP's are not responsive.

Robin: NRDA does not usually occur after the Superfund is complete.

Barbara Harris: The site is quite large to do a parallel action but the door is still open to work parallel between the Superfund and NRDA.

Robin: Should the CAG have a discussion on NRDA?

Should the CAG do more to influence by coming up with more solutions?

Chip: As broad-based as the problem is, the EPA needs support. EPA cannot do it all.

Jim: We need to look at what decisions should be made about river uses after the Superfund and then work backwards.

Chip: Then they could be divided up into several sections with different groups contributing to the various programs.

Bill Egan: Where are we on the Arkema site? If injection causes leaching into the river then what should be in the plan to correct the problem?

Chip: I believe this is included in the Upland section and the solutions to the ongoing source control should be handled by the DEQ.

Mikell O'Mealy: Matt McClincy, lead on Arkema will try to present to the CAG in February.

How can we tell when the site clean up has been completed?

Barbara Harris: They will use indicator species to test if the habitat is up to a proper level.

Regina Skarsinkas: What they normally do is a survey of species to evaluate the habitat health.

Judy Smith: There is a sediment video available that the CAG could see. It runs about 28 minutes.

Robin: It is 8 o'clock, does anyone have any other questions or announcements. Robin adjourned the meeting.